SANTA ROSA NURSERIES.

Transplanting Directions.

In presenting these instructions to our patrons, we would earnestly request that they give the most careful attention to the details. They have been compiled with a view to make them as simple as possible; and having fulfilled our part of the contract by delivering first-class stock in good condition, also giving all necessary instructions how to care for it, if any of our customers should lose a portion of their stock, the fault cannot be on our side. We allude to this because years of experience have taught us that the public lose nursery stock because they neglect it; and we have taken the precaution to send a copy of our Transplanting Directions to every customer, so that none may claim that they do not know how to plant and care for their stock.

We guarantee to deliver the stock in *good condition*, and could we plant and care for it for the first three months, would willingly insure the growth of every tree and shrub sent out. We seldom ever lose a plant, even when we import them from Europe or Japan, and the stock is out of the ground for many weeks. *Very few* of the people pay any attention to transplanting directions. *Anything that has to be cultivated in the earth can no more live without nourishment and care than a human being.*

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

For fruit trees, the condition of the soil must be such as would be adapted to grow successfully farm crops. If the land on which you are to plant your trees is uot in such coudition you can make it so by thoroughly underdraining, deep plowing and subsoiling.

PREPARING THE TREES FOR PLANTING.

The broken or mutilated portions of the roots must be cut off, so as to leave the ends smooth aud sound, and the ends of all the other roots should be pruned. From these ends the new fibrous roots usually start.

PLANTING.

The hole must be large enough to receive the roots freely, without cramping or bending them from their natural position. Let the tree be the same depth it stood in the nursery (the old mark can be readily discerned). The tree being held upright, the finest and best earth from the surface should be carefully worked among the roots with the fiugers, filling every space, and bringing every root in contact with it. *Set the tree as firm as a post, bnt leave the surface filling light and loose.*

MULCHING.

This is done by placing a layer of straw, weeds or coarse manure from three to six inches deep, extending one or two feet further in each direction than the roots. This protects the earth abcut the roots against drying or baking with wind or sun, retains the requisite moisture, and obviates all occasion for a practice generally of injurious effects—the watering newly planted trees.

PRUNING.

The stems should now be put in position for the formation of the top, by removing all the limbs to the point where it is desired to have the top; then cut back each remaining limb, leaving from four to six buds of last season's growth. In the absence of any limbs suitable to form a top, cut the tree down to the requisite height, leaving the dormant buds to make the top.

The business of pruning vigorously at time of setting is generally a very ungrateful one to the planter, as it injures for a time the appearance of the tree to an unpracticed eye. It should, however, be unhesitatingly performed, all the branches to the extent of at least one-half the length of the previous year's growth being removed. Care should also be used to give the proper form to the tree. The head may be left high or low, as the taste of the planter may prefer, or as the nature ofthe tree in some cases may require.

STAKING.

If the trees are tall or in exposed situations, they should be supported by stakes to prevent injury from the action of the wind. Staking is done in the best manner by driving two strong stakes firmly into the ground, one on each side of the tree, about a foot distant from it, and fasten the tree between them with a band of straw, or other soft material, so that it may be kept in an upright position, without chafing, till the roots obtain a firm hold upon the soil.

SHADING.

The trunks of all transplanted trees should be protected from the hot afternoon sun by shakes, cornstalks or other convenient material during the first summer. If not so protected the bark is often killed near the ground by the direct and reflected heat of the sun. Whenever this happens the borer moth is sure to find it and lay her eggs, which soon

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produce borers to destroy the tree. Borers are not found in fruit trees on this Coast unless the trees have been exposed to the broiling sun. After a year or two when the trees begin to grow rapidly they will not require protection.

EARLY PLANTING.

On all soils where water does not stand during the winter, trees will be much more sure to live and will usually make about twice as much growth the first year if planted in the Fall.

PEACH TREES.

These should be *planted immediately on their delivery*, or if not prepared to do so, the roots should be buried in the ground; they will not stand exposure to sun and air, and many are lost simply for want of care. As soon as planted, *cut back all side branches to within two or three inches of the main stem.* Make this the *invariable practice*, and never deviate from it if you wish to save your trees. The growth will be much more rapid and vigorous in consequence of this pruning, and by strictly adhereing to it, and by immediate planting or covering the roots in the soil, very few, if any trees will be lost. Peaches, like all other stock we deliver, will be in fine condition, having been carefully handled and kept from exposure by us. If you do not follow our directions and meet with loss, the fault will be entirely with you.

CULTIVATION AND TRAINING AFTER PLANTING.

Many cultivators, after taking great trouble and expense in the selecting and planting of their trees, fail of success by neglecting that after-care and attention which is equally essential. Caterpillars and cankerworms, grubs and borers, slugs and aphis, disease and blight, must be watched for, fought against, and remedies faithfully applied. The wants of the growing tree must be carefully foreseen, and a faithful effort made to insure health and productiveness.

The requirements of pruning vary somewhat, according to the kind of tree; we prefer, however, low training for all trees. The pruning should be done each year, so that no necessity may arise for cutting large limbs. Care must always be used to keep the head of the tree well balanced, cutting the limbs which may be superfluous.

Trees should be trimmed as early as possible up to the height it is intended the future head should be, that the cutting off of large limbs may not in future be necessary. This should be avoided when possible, as decay is liable to commence at the point of separation, and extend into the trunk. When such removal is absolutely necessary, the wound should be carefully pared smooth, and a covering of paint or grafting wax applied to protect it from the action of the weather.

For the first two or three years after planting, fully one-half the growth of the previous year should be removed, by heading in, or reducing the length of each limb. The top limbs require to be cut back more, the lower limbs less, thus producing a more equal distribution of sap, and consequent vigor to the lower limbs with the upper. After the tree has passed, say to the third or fourth year after planting, the requirement of pruning is only to keep it in the symetrical shape, and prevent particular limbs from taking a disproportionate growth. Limbs so inclined must be headed back sufficiently, and all superfluous wood upon the tree kept promptly removed. This regularly attended to will obviate the occurrence of any necessity for amputating large limbs.

SUMMER PRUNING.

Those who are impatient to see fruit upon their trees, as is often the case, particularly with regard to trees tardy in coming to bearing, may expedite the fulfillment of their wishes by employing the process of summer pruning. In the month of June cut or pinch off the ends of the young shoots; this retards for the time the flow of the sap, and hastens the formation of fruit buds.

ASPARAGUS.

To prepare a bed, dig the ground deep, incorporating large quantities of well decomposed manure. Plant the roots about three inches deep, in rows 18 inches apart, and one foot apart in the rows.

RHUBARB.

The ground should be heavily manured and deeply plowed or spaded. Plant the roots in rows about six feet apart and three feet apart in the rows. It thrives best in a moist alluvial soil.

BERRIES

Should have a strong soil and be kept under constant cultivation. Mulching is of special value. Raspberries and Blackberries should have the old wood cut out each year, and new canes pinched off when three or four feet high. Remove mulch after fruiting, and spade in a light dressing of manure. If set for fruit keep the runners off.

ROSES

Should be planted in a deep, rich, well-drained soil, so that the top roots are not less than three inches below the surface, and should be severely pruned every Winter before the buds start, cutting back the last growth to three or four buds, except Climbing Roses, which may first be allowed to partly cover the space desired. Old, decayed branches should never remain. Every Autumn compost should be placed around the stems of the plants, and spaded into the ground the following Spring.

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For planting grapes, berries, currants and gooseberries, use directions given for trees,

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Always remove the straw and moss from the packages before planting. NEVER PUT MANURE SO AS TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THE ROOTS OF ANY PLANT OR TREE. Use only good soil on and around the roots.

The foregoing has been prepared with the greatest care, and with a special desire to aid our customers in the growth and care of their stock.